

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TUNIS 05998 251556Z

43

ACTION OPIC-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 EB-11 AID-20 L-03 COME-00 TRSE-00

CIEP-03 FEAE-00 IO-14 AF-10 /088 W

----- 012718

R 251527Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6963

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TUNIS 5998

NEA/AFN PASS OPIC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA, EIV, TS

SUBJECT: OPIC SPONSORED INVESTMENT MISSION

REF: A) STATE 208670, B) TUNIS 4549

1. AS REPORTED REF B, EMBASSY WELCOMES US INVESTMENT MISSION TO THIS COUNTRY. OUR DESIRE TO FURTHER GREATER US PRIVATE INVESTMENT HERE AS NEXT STEP IN EVOLUTION OF US/TUNISIAN ECONOMIC RELATIONS BY COUNTER BALANCING DECREASING OFFICIAL AID LEVELS AND CONTINUING TRANSFER OF AMERICAN CAPITAL AND US EXPORT OF GOODS AND TECHNOLOGY COINCIDES WITH GOT CAMPAIGN ATTRACT US INVESTMENT TO REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT AND TO FURTHER ECONOMIC GROWTH. WE ALSO WELCOME VISIT THIS FALL OF MESSRS. BIRD AND MIDDLETON TO DISCUSS TYPE AND SIZE OF MISSION, TIMING SUGGESTED REF A ACCEPTABLE.

2. ENDING THESE DISCUSSIONS, WE OFFER FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION IN PREPARING FOR MISSION. WE FEEL MISSION OF 30 MEMBERS PLUS REPRESENTATIVES OF ARAB INVESTMENT ORGANIZATIONS UNWIELDY FOR SERIOUS DISCUSSIONS AND EXPLORATION OF POSSIBLE INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES. WE SUGGEST SOMEWHAT SMALLER GROUP (ABOUT 20) PREPARED TO SPEND SUFFICIENT TIME HERE TO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TUNIS 05998 251556Z

INVESTIGATE OPPORTUNITIES ON WHICH THEY WILL HAVE

RECEIVED INFORMATION PRIOR TO ARRIVAL AND IN WHICH THEY ARE SERIOUSLY CONTEMPLATING PROJECTS. WE ALSO QUESTION ADVISABILITY OF TAKING SAME POTENTIAL INVESTORS TO SUCH DISPARATE COUNTRIES AS SAUDI ARABIA AND KUWAIT, AND TUNISIA. BELIEVE FORMER TWO COUNTRIES OFFER POSSIBILITIES FOR LARGE SCALE PROJECTS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM TYPE THAT COULD ATTRACT US INVESTORS HERE AND VICE VERSA. FOR MAXIMUM PRACTICAL RESULTS, WE WOULD HOPE MISSION MEMBERS WOULD HAVE FAIRLY DEFINITE IDEAS IN MIND AS TO LAWS, INVESTMENT CLIMATE AND OPPORTUNITIES BEFORE ARRIVAL AND BELIEVE THIS BEST ACHIEVED BY HAVING MISSION VISIT COUNTRIES WITH SAME GENERAL ECONOMIC CONDITIONS. POSSIBLY THIS COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED BY PERMITTING PARTICIPANTS TO ACCOMPANY MISSION ONLY TO COUNTRIES OF IMMEDIATE INTEREST.

3. RE PRELIMINARY MEETING SEPTEMBER 29 IN WASHINGTON, EMBASSY INFORMED SECRETARY OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF PLAN, MUSTAPHA ZAAOUNI, WHO IS REPLACING MINISTER MOALLA TO HEAD DELEGATION TO IBRD MEETING. ALTHOUGH ZAAOUNI NOT INVOLVED EARLIER MIDDLETON VISIT, HE SAID HE WOULD BE PLEASED TO DISCUSS SUBJECT MISSION WITH BIRD AND MIDDLETON. SUGGEST OPIC MAKE APPOINTMENTS WITH ZAAOUNI THROUGH TUNISIAN EMBASSY, WASHINGTON POSSIBLY PRIOR TO ARRIVAL OF TUNISIAN DELEGATION.

4. WE SUGGEST THAT BIRD AND MIDDLETON ALSO DISCUSS MISSION WITH: ABDESSELEM BEN AYED, WHO IS TO ACCOMPANY MINISTER AYARI DURING US VISIT IN NOVEMBER AND HEADS MAJOR LOCAL FRENCH-TUNISIAN OWNED COMMERCIAL BANK, UBCI; MOKHTAR FAKHFAKH OF TUNISIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK; AND AHMED BEN ABDELKEFI, WHO IS HEAD OF SPECIAL AGENCY TO DEVELOP TOURISM IN SOUSSE REGION. THESE OFFICIALS ARE SCHEDULED TO BE IN WASHINGTON DURING IBRD/IMF ANNUAL MEETING AND SHOULD HAVE USEFUL SUGGESTIONS REGARDING MISSION.

SEELYE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TUNIS05998
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740270-0511
From: TUNIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740913/aaaaalax.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OPIC
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) STATE 208670, B) TUNIS 4549
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 AUG 2002 by kellew0>; APPROVED <04 MAR 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OPIC SPONSORED INVESTMENT MISSION
TAGS: OTRA, EINV, TS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005